Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and National Industrial Develop.nent Corporation Limited and

(ii) 74th Report on National Cooperative Development Corporation, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited, Central Electronics Limited and Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

MOTION REGARDING THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE PROTECTION OF PLANT VARIETIES AND FARMERS' RIGHTS BILL, 1999

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:-

> "That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do appoint six members of Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Authority to give an effective system for protection of the rights of plant breeders and farmers, and to encourage the development of new varieties of plants, and to give effect to sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 3 of article 27, Part II of the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights in the vacancies caused by retirement of six Members namely Shri Janardhana Poojary, Shri V. Kishore Chandra S. Deo, Dr. Ranbir Singh, Shri Onkar Singh Lakhawat, Dr. Biplab Dasgupta and Shri Gurudas Das Gupta from Rajya Sabha on 2nd April, 2000 and resolves that Dr. A.R. Kidwai, Dr. M.N. Das, Shri Lalitbhai Mehta, Shri Kailash Joshi, Dr. Biplab Dasgupta and Shri N.R. Dasari be appointed to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancies."

The question was proposed and the motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Calling Attention. Hon. Members, general rule is that we invite one Member from each party. The other day the Calling Attention on Air India continued for the whole day. It

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became a debate rather than a Calling Attention. So, according to rules, the first Member will speak for seven minutes and other will speak for just five minutes. When I was a Member of this House and Members used to speak beyond their allotted time, Shri V.V. Giri used to ring the Bell so that we could wind up. But, now we have stopped that. When a Member speaks beyond the allotted time, other Members cannot speak. So, I would request that the mover, that is, the first speaker will speak for seven minutes and other will speak for just 5 minutes. Now, I will call Members one by one on the basis of party, and not on the basis of the names in the list. Shri Ram Das Aggarwal.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Adverse effects of Liberalisation

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल (राजस्थान) : सभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान व्यापार के उदारीकरण और भारतीय उद्योग, विशेषतः लघु उद्योग क्षेत्र के उद्योगों द्वारा निर्मित वस्तुओं के मुक्त आयात के प्रतिकूल प्रभाव के संबंध में आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं।

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : Under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), 1947 all Members were obliged to remove all the Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) maintained on imports. India, being a Founder Member, was also obliged to remove the QRs but it took recourse to the exception provided in GATT for maintaining such QRs owing to balance of payments (BoP) difficulties.

However, from 1995 onwards, with substantial improvement in India's BoP position, certain Members questioned India's continued justification for maintaining QRs on BoP grounds. India could negotiate with all other trading partners, with the exception of USA, for phasing out these QRs. USA filed a dispute against India in WTO and the Dispute Settlement Panel ruled against India. India filed an appeal before the Appellate Body of WTO against the findings of the Panel but the Appellate Body also upheld the findings of Panel. Both these Reports were adopted by the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB). Consequently, a bilateral Agreement was signed between India and USA for determining the reasonable period of